

Introduced by Senator Scott

February 19, 2008

An act to add Article 9 (commencing with Section 89280) to Chapter 2 of Part 55 of Division 8 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to nursing degrees.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1288, as introduced, Scott. California State University: Doctor of Nursing Practice degree.

Existing law establishes the California State University and its various campuses under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University. Existing law requires the California State University to offer undergraduate and graduate instruction through the master's degree in the liberal arts and sciences and professional education, including teacher education.

This bill would, notwithstanding existing law, authorize the California State University to award the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. The bill would limit the authority to award the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree to the discipline of nursing practice and distinguish the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from research-based doctoral degrees at the University of California. The bill would require that the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree programs train nurses for advanced nursing practice, prepare faculty to teach in postsecondary nursing education programs, and enable professionals to earn the degree while working full time. The bill would require the California State University to seek nonstate funding to establish the program and implement the program when sufficient funding is available.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Article 9 (commencing with Section 89280) is added to Chapter 2 of Part 55 of Division 8 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 9. Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree

89280. (a) Notwithstanding Section 66010.4, in order to meet specific nursing education needs in California, the California State University may award the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree, as described in this section.

(b) The authority to award the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree shall be limited to the discipline of nursing practice. The Doctor of Nursing Practice degree offered by the California State University shall be distinguished from research-based doctoral degrees at the University of California.

(c) The Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program offered by the California State University shall train nurses for advanced nursing practice and prepare faculty to teach in postsecondary nursing education programs. The degree programs shall enable professionals to earn the degree while working full time.

(d) The California State University shall seek nonstate funding to establish the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program and shall implement the program when sufficient funding is available.